

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREVIEWING USER-INTERFACE APPEARANCE ON MULTIPLE PLATFORMS

ABSTRACT

A method and structure for emulating on a single display platform an application's user
5 interface as it would appear on each of a number of target devices, given a set of device
characteristics for any device to be emulated and a formal description of one or more applications
to be emulated. The method includes combining a selected one or more of the device
characteristics and a selected one of the application formal descriptions and providing a
simultaneous and consistent display representation for the selected application, so as to provide a
10 stylized rendering of the selected application's interface in a uniform appearance and in which the
selected application's interface for more than one target device can be simultaneously viewed.
The method also synchronizes the display representation, so that a simultaneous update to all of
the selected target device representations is updated when information in a device-independent
portion of the formal description is changed.